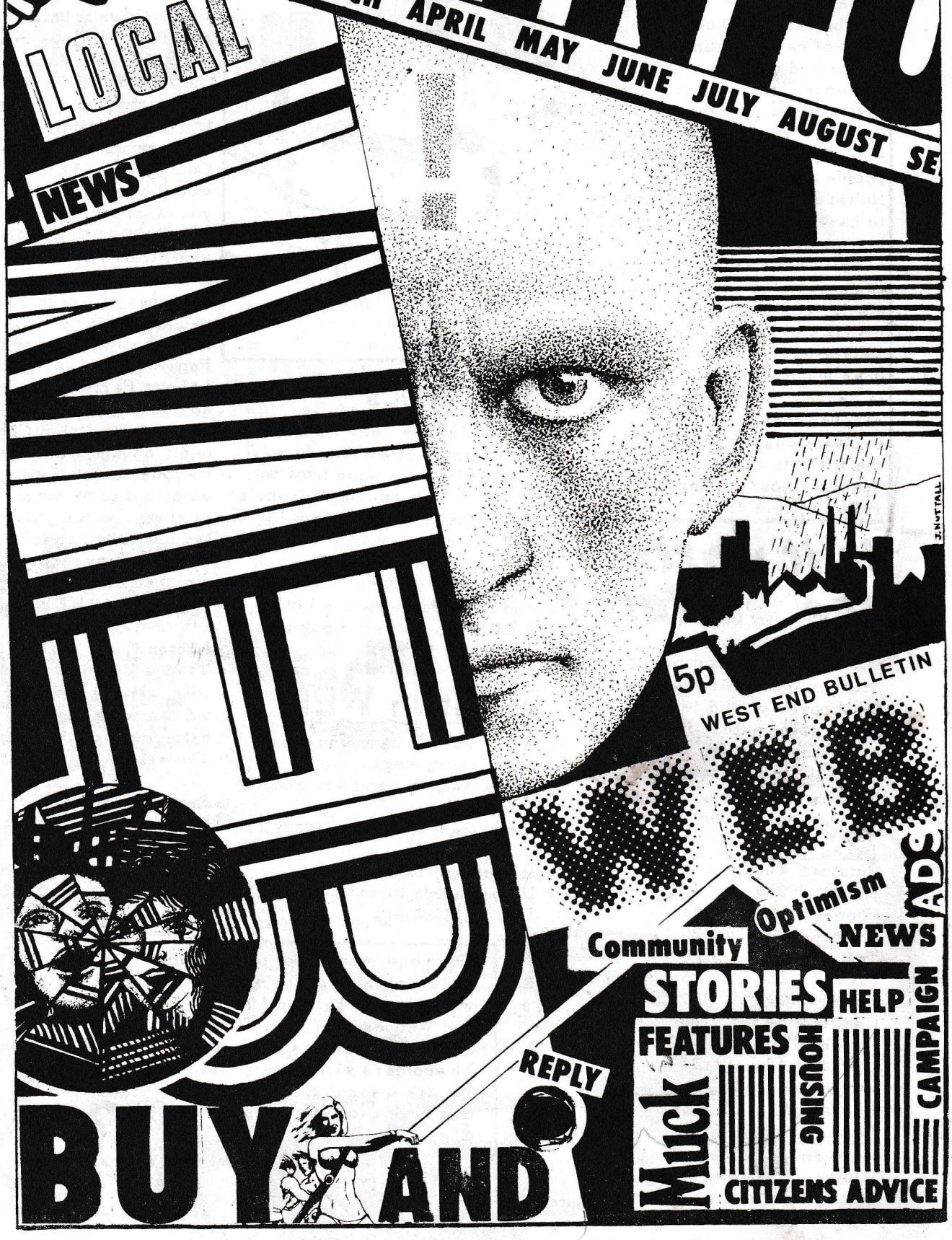
ISSUE 40 MAY

WEB IS INFO

NUARY FEBRUARY MARCH APRIL MAY JUNE JULY AUGUST SE

LOCAL

NEWS



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WEST END BULLETIN

Optimism

ADS

NEWS

Community

STORIES

HELP

FEATURES

HOUSING

CAMPAIGN

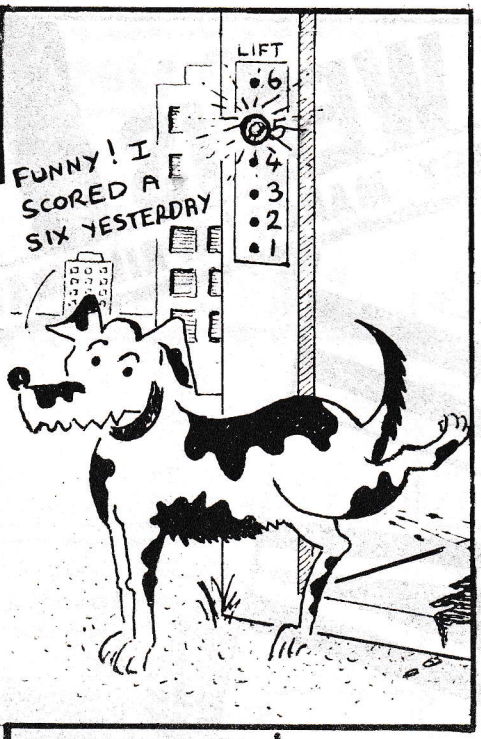
Muck

CITIZENS ADVICE

REPLY

BUY AND

Rodney rides again!



As we all know, the West End has an abundance of dogs roaming the streets, running in front of cars, fouling the pavements and causing a general nuisance. In fact, it must be pretty boring for the West End dogs, not much excitement around, with more and more people moving out.
However, a new trend appears to have been set for dog entertainment. This new exhilerating activity has been initiated by Rodney. Rodney, of no fixed abode, has been joy-riding in the lifts of the West Park Estate flats. Although he does not live in the flats, Rodney in search of adventure, has reached theheight of his explorations by nipping into the lift with a passenger and spending hours on end joy-riding up and down the flats.

Is it worth the busfare?

WEB set out to compare prices between our local shops on Stockport Rd. and random shops of the same nature in the centre of Ashton.
If unable to visit Ashton we can get most of our needs locally - here's what we found :

Local Prices		Ashton Centre	
Potatoes	40	49	5 lbs
Bread	23½	19½	Large
Cheese	58	54	1 lb
Coffee	99	90	4 ozs
Tea	20	20	¼ lb
Sugar	28	25	2 lbs
Butter	27½	27	½ lb
Cod	84	80	1 lb
Dryclean			
3pc. suit	£1.	£1.35	
Cut & blow			
Female	£2.75	£3.45	

Totals were as follows:
Local shopping: £7.55
Centre shopping: £8.44½ + 16p. each way busfare

Hot Chocs

As it's Jubilee Year Mrs. Cunningham of Fitzroy Street thought it was a good time to bring out her box of Cadbury's chocolates, which is now 75 years old!
The box celebrates the coronation of King Edward VII and is dated 26th June 1902.
WEB's advice is - Look but don't eat!

put it in WEB

If you want to have your say about something
If you want to complain about something
If you want to write a story or a feature
If you want to advertise
If you have a memory or a joke
PUT IT IN WEB!

Trades Council

Dear WEB,

Since the Tameside Trade Union Council holds its monthly meetings in the West End of Ashton - at the AUEW offices - it is only right that I should try and explain to your readers what the Trades Council is. Perhaps it would be easier to tell you what it is not .
It is nothing to do with local traders.
It is an Association of branches of Trade Unions and has fraternal links with other bodies like the Old Age Pensioner's Association, the Labour Parties, Students and so on.
The Trades Union Council, oddly enough , does not use its muscles-or does so rarely- on behalf of workers, but it is always willing to consider the individual case of someone who considers themselves wronged or shabbily treated.
Good luck to WEB and all the residents of the West End of Ashton.
Trades Union is not synonomous with 'strike' and I, for one, know we can work together for the betterment of the community in Tameside.

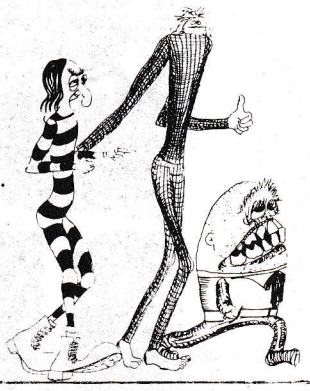
Bert Ellicott,
Hon. Secretary,
Tameside Trades Union Council.

WEB YOUTH

The youth would like to announce the re-opening of the Youth Club which is now held on Monday and Wednesday 7.00 - 10.00 p.m at the Community Centre.
Newcomers will be very welcome.
We are pleased to say that we now have two new Youth Leaders, Cherry and Mick.

Yours sincerely,

The Youth



Diversion: "POLICE MISINFORM COUNCIL"

IN AN INTERVIEW WITH WEB COUNCILLOR PETIT ACCUSED THE POLICE OF 'MISINFORMING THE COUNCIL' ABOUT THE KELVIN ST. DIVERSION FROM STOCKPORT RD. WEB INVESTIGATES THE SITUATION BEHIND THIS ASTONISHING STATEMENT.

alternatives

Avid "Reporter" readers will know that Tameside's Engineering Dept. had considered diverting traffic down Birch St. (which is much wider than Kelvin St.) and onto Manchester Rd. This idea was rejected because of the difficulties of easing traffic onto Manchester Rd., which itself is going to be dug up quite soon.
Kelvin St. was chosen, says Mr. Baxter, of the Engineering Dept. because of all the streets running par allel to Stockport Rd. it is the only one which issues straight back onto it, at Trafalgar Square.

These arguments are all very fine, but why has there got to be a diversion at all? Why not keep the traffic light system on Stockport Rd. which seemed to be working quite well?

inconvenience

Well, it seems there has been a good deal of pressure against this from the Police, who don't like the long queues of cars at traffic lights during the rush hours That is to say, a diversion down Kelvin St. is more CONVENIENT for them.
But why should residents have to suffer all the inconvenience, and danger, of rush hour traffic down a tiny St., just to save the Police a bit of trouble?

Defending the Kelvin St. diversion Mr. Baxter said, he thinks traffic flow on Kelvin St. will lessen as motorists find alternative routes of their own. Well, why doesn't that apply to Stockport Rd. as well? And, in any case, surely it's fairer to inconvenience the police (who get paid for it) and a few motorists (who can find alternative routes) than residents who have no alternatives ?

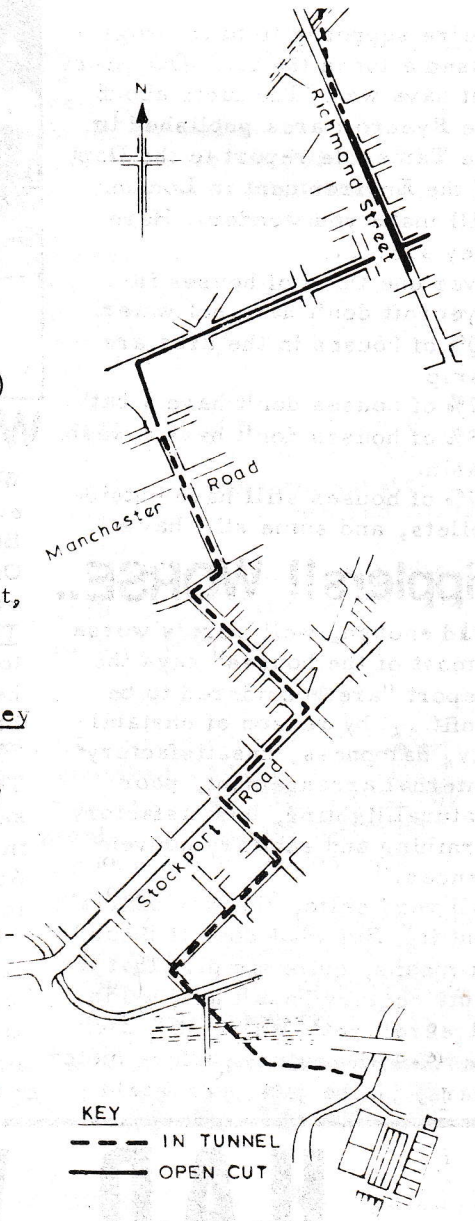
In the end it all comes down to POWER.
West End Residents don't want a diversion, the Police do. But, the Police have more clout with Tameside than do it s voters and ratepayers. Which is why we get the inconvenience and they get their diversion.

What a load of sh** !

Not content with digging a massive hole in Stockport Rd and diverting articulated lorries down Kelvin St. , Tameside's trusty sewage contractors now tell us, without a by-your-leave or an apology, that in future they will be hammering and drilling from 6 am to 10pm Monday to Friday, presumably because they are behind on their schedules.

Now isn't that the last straw???

send your poems to web



A MAP OF TAMESIDE'S NEW SEWAGE SYSTEM.

The old Waterloo sewage works was too near to a new housing estate, was too small anyhow, and so it was abandoned A new works is to be built and a new and bigger sewage system, right across ASHTON. Costing £1½million. And that's how all the trouble began.

Shocking Facts

TAMESIDE SURVEY EXPOSES 19th CENTURY CONDITIONS IN THE WEST END.

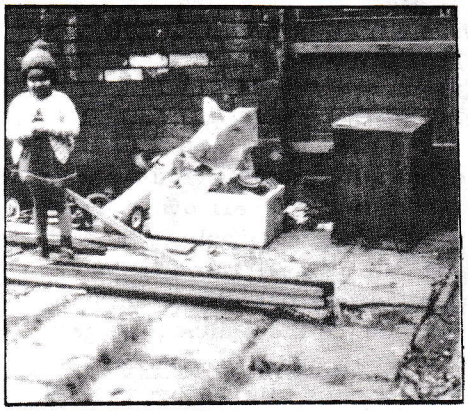
We're supposed to have progr - essed a lot in the last 100 years but have we ? The facts about the Ryecroft area published in the Tameside report to the Dept of the Environment in London will make you wonder. Here they are.....

Over one third of houses in Ryecroft don't have hot water.
60% of houses in the area are damp
47% of houses don't have a bath.
58% of houses don't have a wash basin.
57% of houses still have outside toilets, and some still have

Tipplers!! WORSE..

Bad enough, well here's worse. "most of the houses" says the report "are considered to be unfit.... by reason of unstability, dampness, unsatisfactory internal arrangement, poor natural lighting, unsatisfactory draining and sanitary conveniences."

All very calm, the way officials put it. But what does it mean? It means, quite simply, that the 20th century hasn't arrived in Ryecroft yet! We're still back in the 19th century- before motor cars, jumbo jets, two world wars and before a so-called labour party got big with promises of a new deal for ordinary working people.



Who's Responsible

Who's responsible? Well, whoever owns the houses surely! But it's not as easy as that. Over a third of the houses are owned by private landlords. They say that they cannot afford to improve their properties because of the rent laws which have come in over the last ten years.

The worst housing conditions, says the report, are to be found in properties owned by landlords And the majority of people living in these conditions are, says the report, pensioners. The reward for a lifetime of hard work in the West End is..... DAMP, DARKNESS, and some of the WORST CONDITIONS in the country.

Some private landlords do charge very low rents, others don't . People in the '12 Apostles' are paying between £12-16 a week for a double room! Landlords who aren't prepared to put back some of their profits into improvements should sell out to the Council. Many of the smaller landlords (who tend to charge lower rents) have already done so.

Owner Occupiers

The majority of houses in Ryecroft are owner occupied. Why don't they improve their houses. People cause slums Or do they?

A lot of people in Ryecroft are old. Over one third are retired and earning less than £20 per week.

The average age for the under 60's in the West End is below £50 per week, which is way below the national average.

The things that are wrong with houses in Ryecroft are not small and not cheap to put right. How much does a damp course cost? How much to replace half the tiles on the roof? To put a new bathroom in? To rewire? More than most people in the area can afford, and thats for sure.

Bright Future

Regular readers of WEB will already know that improvements, using Government Grants to householders and landlords, have already been started in some properties in the area.

The rot is, hopefully, slowing down and - who knows?- maybe in ten years time it will have stopped altogether. But, it is going to take at least that long.

AND BY THAT TIME MANY OF THE PEOPLE WHO MOST DESERVE TO SEE SOME IMPROVEMENT IN THEIR LIVING CONDITIONS MAY NOT BE ALIVE AND THAT'S A TRAGEDY.

H.A.D. VYAS

(HARRY'S)

OFF LICENCE

Mon-Sat
8.30 -2.30pm
3.30-10.30pm

Sun
10.00-2.00pm
6.00pm-10.00pm

162, RYECROFT ST.,

MIXED GROCERIES CIGARETTES BEERS MINERAL
SPIRITS SWEETS BIRDS EYE FROZEN FOODS WINES

FACE TO FACE

THIS ISSUE:

NEW

Web Interviews Cnllr. Petit

WHO ARE THEY? .....WHAT DO THEY STAND FOR? AND WHY?
WEB GOES FACE TO FACE WITH PROMINENT PEOPLE IN W.E.

Q. What is it like being a member of Tameside Council?

A. At first, I was very disillusioned with the Council, there is a lot of red tape which could be eliminated. After achieving results as a trades unionist, over many years, I think Tameside could learn a lot about efficiency from the Trade Union structure.

Housing

Q. What have you done to help the people in the Housing Action Area?

A. The reducing of the life expectancy of the area, from 30 to 15 years was to get the finances cracking. The HAA is a good thing because it keeps the community spirit alive.

PELHAM ST. TO BE MODERNISED IN JUNE.

Jobs

Q. What do you think has caused the high unemployment in the West End? (Nationally unemployment is about 6%, in the W.E. it is about 18%).

A. The reason, I believe, is the change from being a cotton town to one of light industry. The more machines there are, the less jobs. Tameside could help by offering incentives to light industry to encourage them into the area. We are encouraging a leather works to open in Hertford St., which will probably mean 150 jobs, mainly for women.

Racism

Q. Do you feel racism is a problem in the West End?

A. No, the people of Ashton have accepted the coloureds. The coloured people have blended in very well. They are a good working force. Their children are very well mannered and do excellently at school.

Scroungers?

Q. Some people in the West End regard people on Social Security as scroungers. What are your feelings on this?

A. Well, the national press slam people on social security, they are very unfair and do not take into consideration the widows, one parent families, who suffer a great deal. There is probably one person in a hundred who abuses the system. They don't look at Prince Philip, an out of work Greek on £50,000 a year of the tax payers money.

FUTURE OF THE WEST END

Q. How would you like to see the West End develop?

A.(i) The priority is to maintain a good community spirit.
(ii) More modern industry especially for women and young people.
(iii) More involvement with children, in playschemes, with back up from schools.

WEB COMMENT

Our first impression of Councillor Petit is of a very amiable, interesting and caring person, who speaks his mind, and works hard for his Ward members. Mr. Petit is down-to-earth, easy to approach and we are sure you will find him helpful if you should need to call on his services.

FACE TO FACE!

YOUR PROBLEMS ARE OURS SO BRING THEM ALONG TO US,

COUNCILLORS: F. RUFFLEY, J.V. PETIT & P. McENEANEY.

AT

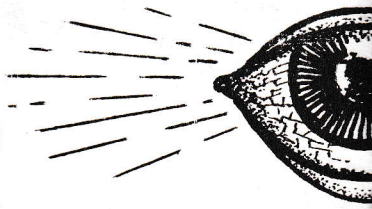
TRAFALGAR SQ. NURSERY

1ST. SAT EVERY MONTH 10-12 NOON

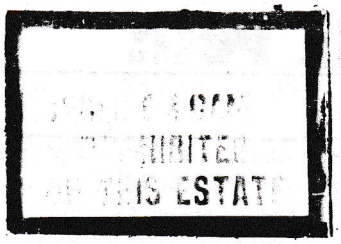
HOLY TRINITY SCHOOL

3RD SAT. EVERY MONTH 10-12 NOON

TAMESIDE



.SIGN, WEST PARK ESTATE.



WHERE ON EARTH ARE THE KIDS THERE SUPPOSED TO PLAY ? ???! STOCKPORT RD?

low Standards

The Council says there is a surplus of teachers in Tameside that has to be mopped up before teachers outside the area can be appointed.

The trouble is, most of this 'alleged' surplus is in primary schools while a lot of the vacancies are in secondary schools. So, secondary school headmasters are being forced to employ primary school teachers who lack the training and experience to do the job properly. Which means that our kids are going to get a worse education. If Councillors Grantham and Thorpe are so keen on raising educational standards why do they force our schools to do things that can only lower standards?

100 THOU. OLD BOY!

If you remember , last year Tamesides Tory council set aside over £100,000 of our money to send under 200 kids to Independant schools. Meanwhile there are perfetcly good schools in Tameside itself withoutenough resources to give our kids the education they deserve?

Why didn't the council spend that money on our kids in our schools? What do they think they are doing?

Well, the answer turned up a few weeks ago in an issue of "THE TEACHER". It gave the results of a recent survey of 'who's who' in the nation's top jobs. (Lawyers, top civil servants, big business executives). It seems - believe it or not-that since the good old days of 1939 the number of public school people in these top jobs has actually gone up! (By 11% if you're interested).

evil

So, what are the Tory's doing? They're helping to keep the old evil class system of this country going, that's what. They're using our money to strengthen an "old boy's" network that should have gone out forty years ago with workhouses!

Schools : Se

DID YOU KNOW THAT SCHOOL
WHICH PARENTS ARE NOT SU
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ATTITUDES. THERE IS NO ST
REVIEWING THESE RECORDS
COMMENTS DO NOT HAVE TO
A TAMESIDE SPOKESMAN CON
FILES WERE INDED "SECRET"
HEADMASTERS IN THE AREA
PRACTICE FILES WERE SHOW
THE POINT IS THAT PARENTS
FILES ON THEIR CHILDREN U
THE LOOK OF THEM'. OTHE
CARDS AVAILABLE TO PAREN
SO WHY NOT TAMESIDE ?

Cuts & Mrs X

Mrs. X and her three little kids used to live on John Street. Last October they discovered that all the wiring upstairs was dangerous.

Mrs. X had no lighting and was forced to use candles. Despite persistant calls Building Services did not arrive until - wait for it-last month. And, to add insult to injury, only one day before she was due to be rehoused anyway.

WITH GOVERNMENT SPENDING CUTS HITTING BUILDING SERVICES (see Pg. 9) THIS KIND OF THING IS GOING TO HAPPEN MORE AND MORE IN THE FUTURE.

SOMETHING TO SELL?

TEL -308 2939;

Ancient - Modern *Large - Small*

Full or Part House Clearance

Bereavement Clearance With Discretion Assured

Honest Prices Paid For Fast Efficient Service

LES & BRENDA

87, STOCKPORT RD., A.U.L.

EYE

THE COLUMN THAT KEEPS YOU IN THE KNOW....

RE-LET ROW

Rumours have been reaching WEB that Tameside Council repairs are not being done, and that houses are being relet in a terrible state. WEB asked Mr. Kirk, the chief lettings officer, and Mr. Walsh, the buildings services manager, what was going on ?

Their answer, in a word, was CUTS.

Tameside used to redecorate all re-lets and leave them in a decent state for new tenants. Now, they only do major repairs (such as re-wiring jobs). This means that some tenants are going into 'new' homes that look more like rubbish tips than anything else. People from Clearance Areas are getting the best properties (They've waited long enough at any rate), and the worse properties are, we hear, being given to the homeless. Beggars, Tameside reasons, can't be choosers.

bits

On top of this, repairs to regular tenancies are not being done. Special 'mobile' units are supposed to do a "Blitzkrieg" on all repairs in each area at least four times a year. But even these don't do all repairs. Some are simply not going to get done from one year to the next. Which means that unless tenants start doing Tameside's job for them, council estates are going to slowly drop to bits over the next few years.

Council-Speak

Mr. Kirk was very helpful, but, without realising it, he gave WEB an insight into how the official mind works.

There are two reasons, said Mr. Kirk, why re-let properties are not being cleaned or repaired. One, he said, is 'financial' (that is, cuts). The other, he said, is in order to 'speed up the re-let cycle'.

"Speed up the re-let cycle??" WEB wasn't sure what it meant, but it certainly sounded impressive. So we asked, and it seems that if you don't bother to clean or repair a house it shortens the time between getting one tenant out and a new one in, so you can start counting the pennies quicker. This is what they call 'speeding up the re-let cycle'. Now, if they just called it 'getting more money for a worse service' everybody would know what they meant, but it wouldn't sound so good, would it? WEB wonders if this could be deliberate ?

cret Files

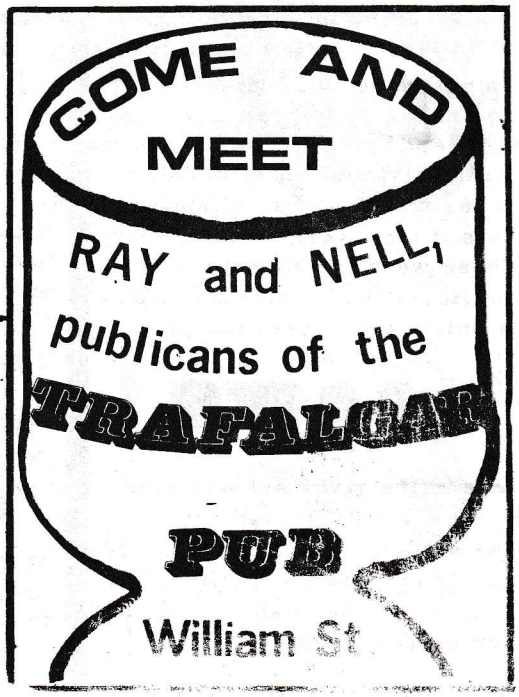
S KEEP FILES ON OUR KIDS,
POSED TO SEE? COMMENTS
PILS ARE WRITTEN DOWN ON
OUGHOUT THEIR CAREER, ON
, SKILLS AND GENERAL
ANDARD PROCEDURE FOR
ND TEACHERS MAKING
IGN THEM.
FIRMED TO WEB THAT THESE
BUT WHEN WE CONTACTED
HEY IMPLIED THAT IN
TO SOME PARENTS. BUT,
HAVE NO RIGHT TO SEE THESE
LESS THE HEADMASTER 'LIKES
AUTHORITIES MAKE RECORD
TS AS A MATTER OF PRINCIPLE

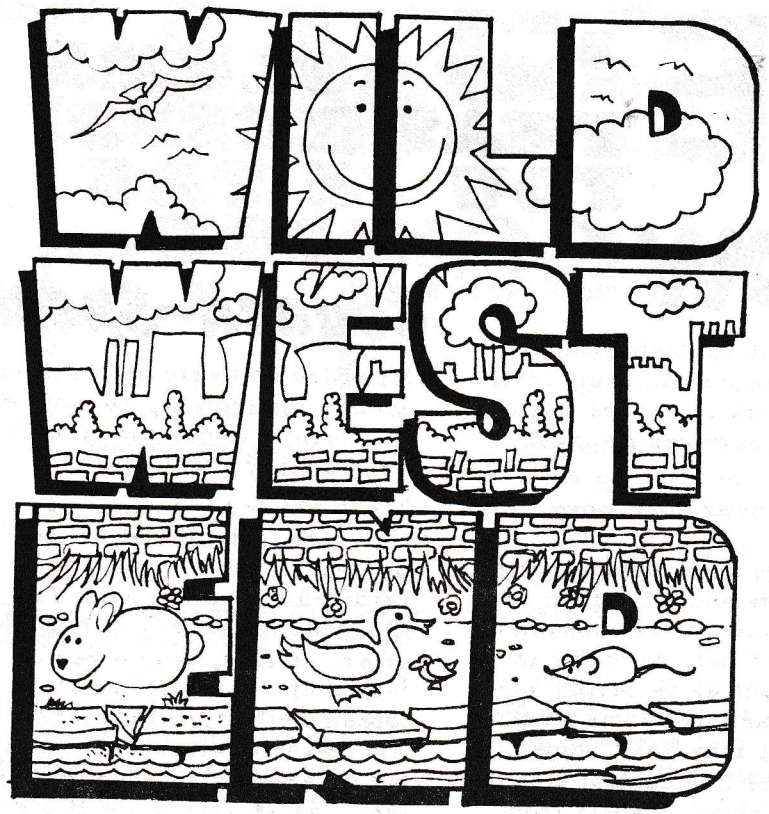
Vandalism

The powers that be recently decided that Fairfield High School needed a face-lift. So, they came up with the plan to landscape the front of the school.

Part of the grand scheme was to cut down eighty perfectly healthy trees! Recreation and Education Depts. agreed to the plan and everything was going through smoothly-even the Governors of the school agreed-until some of the teachers got to hear of the idea. Well, they were furious, and decided that they would stop this vandalism. With the support of the pupils they contacted as many people as possible - parents, councillors, conservation societies and even the tree preservation officer for GMC. After a few days the plans had to be shelved and the landscaper has been sent back to the drawingboard. The teachers and pupils are waiting to see what the new plan looks like - so is WEB.

SEND INFO TO WEB.
330 5664





Gigantic tropical ferns, miles and miles of exotic vegetation, all on the edge of a river delta as big as the Amazon.....
Where? South America, Africa? No - the West End, 300 million years ago.
It was all happening during what geologists call the carboniferous period. Most of Britain was covered in the kind of swamps and jungles which you only find in very remote parts of the world nowadays.
Things were BIG then.
You still find the remains in the West End of massive tree ferns that would be almost as big as the West Park Estate flats if they were standing now. These were the ancestors of the Horse Tail which nowadays is only a puny three footer.

JAWS

Life in the river estuary close by was pretty fantastic too. There were enormous primitive fish, Giant Jaws who lived off the kind of shellfish you can still find on Blackpool beach.

Back on the land there were Dinosaures - but little ones. Little lizards: tree lizards: land lizards and a grotesque frog-like lizard.
In those days the insects had already settled in and in particular seemed to like it in the West End. Liked it so much he's still around today! - the Cockroach.

playspace?

How many times have we heard officials visiting this area say that we are desperately short of play areas. I suppose they havn't even seen the land behind Trafalgar St. and Ryecroft St.

This land is at the moment used as a rubbish tip and looks appalling.

Several of the people living nearby have made enquiries as to who owns the land and have drawn a blank.

Apparently, there may be money available from the Area Improvement Group, which may be used to clear and renovate this land. Would anyone who has any ideas on what they would like to see done here please come along to a meeting at 67 Cambridge St. on Tues. 3rd May 7.30pm, to meet Mr. Martin Moore from the Area Improvement Group.

The past three issues have dealt with the shortcomings of the Council and its various departments.

APATHY!

But you can't blame everything on the council and the system, some of the problems in the West End need your co-operation, but the apathy of a vast majority of W.E. people has to be seen to be believed. I say the majority because there are some people who are proud to live in the West End and who will fight with whatever means available to get some decent standards back into the West End. WECRA is just one of these small groups of people who are prepared to fight for their rights.
We have a thriving community centre made up of people who enjoy and care about the West End. But, back to the majority who think that if they sit on their backsides long enough someone will do it for them, well they won't.

CLEAN SWEEP

If you think that this article isn't necessary just have a look in your back entry. We've been asking you for months to help clean up the West End, are you so lazy that you won't pick up a brush? Do you want your house to end up under a C.P.O? Do you want your rates to go up year by year?

EXCUSES, EXCUSES

Now, think of your excuses.....
1. Too tired. 2. Can't get a baby-sitter. 3. You're at work all day. Yes, the excuses could fill the page. Now, also consider that by sitting on your backsides for evermore you are not being fair to either yourselves or your neighbours.

WORST OF HEALTH

One of the best Nationalised industries in this country is in desperate financial need. A familiar statement these days, but there is no Union agitating for a massive injection of money for retooling this industry, and its product is the most precious which this country produces - it is the health and welfare of every individual.
The National Health Service is under pressures it has never had to experience before, so, what price a healthy nation?
Why not a bill of equality of treatment under this National Health Service to which we all equally contribute?

LESS FOR YOUR MONEY

If you have the misfortune to to live in Tameside you will only get £48 per head per year spent on your health, but if you lived in Kensington, London you would get £192 per head per year spent on your health. Now, the people of Kensington do not contribute any more than the people of Tameside so why do they get the bulk of the money spent on them?
It probably seems irrelevant if you are in good health but the variance may one day mean the difference between life and death for you or your family.
Now is the time to do something about it. Tameside General Hospital has a massive catchment area stretching from Oldham to Droylsden , to Stockport and over the pennines to Sheffield. All the people in this area are supposedly looked after in Tameside General Hospital. Londoners would not put up with this situation so why would we? Are we apathetic, Are the people who represent us at Westminster dumb? Why dont they earn their salaries and ensure that the people they represent get a fair deal, after all, Tameside people don't get a refund for bad service from the Health service.
Our doctors have more people to look after, why? Why do we get a poorer service? Why do we put up with this situation?
I suggest that we lobby our MP Mr. Robert Sheldon to do something about the poor service we get and to relieve the overworked Doctors and Nurses in Tameside and other poorly served areas.

Get things done!
Write to *WEB*
***1*, Hawthorne Grove,**

Be a W.E.B. local Reporter

NYE NEVER

I am sure Nye Bevan never wanted an elite area in the National Health Service when he set it up. Perhaps it will take another Bevan to sort out the sorry mess of red tape that is now the National Health Service.
The service needs more Indians and less Chiefs, it is like all the organisations today, overloaded by people who are superflous to caring for the sick and infirm. As a result there is less and less money available for Doctors and Nurses equipment. The next case that cannot be dealt with could be of someone near and dear to you. Act now, write to your M. P.

LETTERS

WEB would like to point out that the views expressed in letters printed are individual's opinions and not editorial policy.

Tameside's Poverty Drive.

Saturation is a simple word, used often in the English language, but it seems misunderstood by the people in Authority in Tameside. Saturation means simply enough, can't take any more. We seem to be intent on reducing the standard of living in Tameside, and indeed the country, to soup kitchen level, by forcing so called improvements down the throats of ratepayers and at the same time, making the Ratepayers pay for it, whether they can afford to or not.

EMPTY SEATS

A theatre, costing a small fortune and losing money if we believe the recent reports playing to small audiences. When established theatres have difficulty in filling their seats our magnificent men say we need one and our increased rates help to pay for it.

SINKING SHIP

We report financial losses, write them off, and not one head rolls. We dig big holes in the Oxford Park area and surprise, surprise a house in the vicinity starts to sink. We will pay for it say Tameside grandly, probably insurance pays, but the rate payers pay the insurance. Doesn't our Borough Engineer know that if you attack the foundations of buildings without first preparing the ground the buildings will move and sink? No heads rolling for this clanger either I suppose.

The area and the country has a disease called inflation. My opinion is, inefficiency, covering up, and archaic local and national goverment systems are the disease. It's time we got rid of the 'great' in Britain. Call the place Britain Ltd. and run it like a profitable business.

WEB needs YOU!

PEOPLE POWER

If this happened Tameside and other areas may follow suit, get rid of their Colonels and heads would roll for inefficiency. Maybe, just maybe, the ratepayers could have a bigger say in what their, repeat their money does and not be told every year that we have to pay 20%, 30%, 35% more this year because of.... Yours,

L. Harris.

When Youv'e Got To Go...

It has been decided by a majority of council members that a number of public conveniences in Tameside are to be closed down in order to save money. The reported impending closure of the urinal on Stockport Rd. outside the West End Park cannot be anything other than ill-advised.

RELIEF

It affords relief to innumerable drivers of all types of vehicles on a stretch of road where the vehicles cause no obstruction in the limited period of their stay.
Where is there an alternative?

HALF MILE DASH

The nearest is at Guide Bridge. Does not the mind of even the most obtuse member of any controlling authority boggle at the thought of the driver of a long vehicle, or even smaller fry, being forced by a 'call of nature' to create traffic chaos in that area. Oxford Park? What about the residents on the incoming side of the road having heavy transport parked outside their houses, and what about the road being up for an estimated six months? And when it's closing time for the park? Where next? Not St. Michaels Square - thats for the chop. Not until Stamford Park is reached, and by then it might be too late!

» ADVERTISE IN WEB! « Ring 330 5664 for rates.

FALLING RESERVES

It seems ironical that large sums are paid by this country to aid "emergent nations" leaving our own Treasury in such a poor state that it has too little left to stop us sliding into the conditions from which they are emerging.
Please think again Gentlemen of the Council.

Yours,
Onlooker

Small ADS 330-5664 FREE! in WEB

Letters

Letters (Continued...)

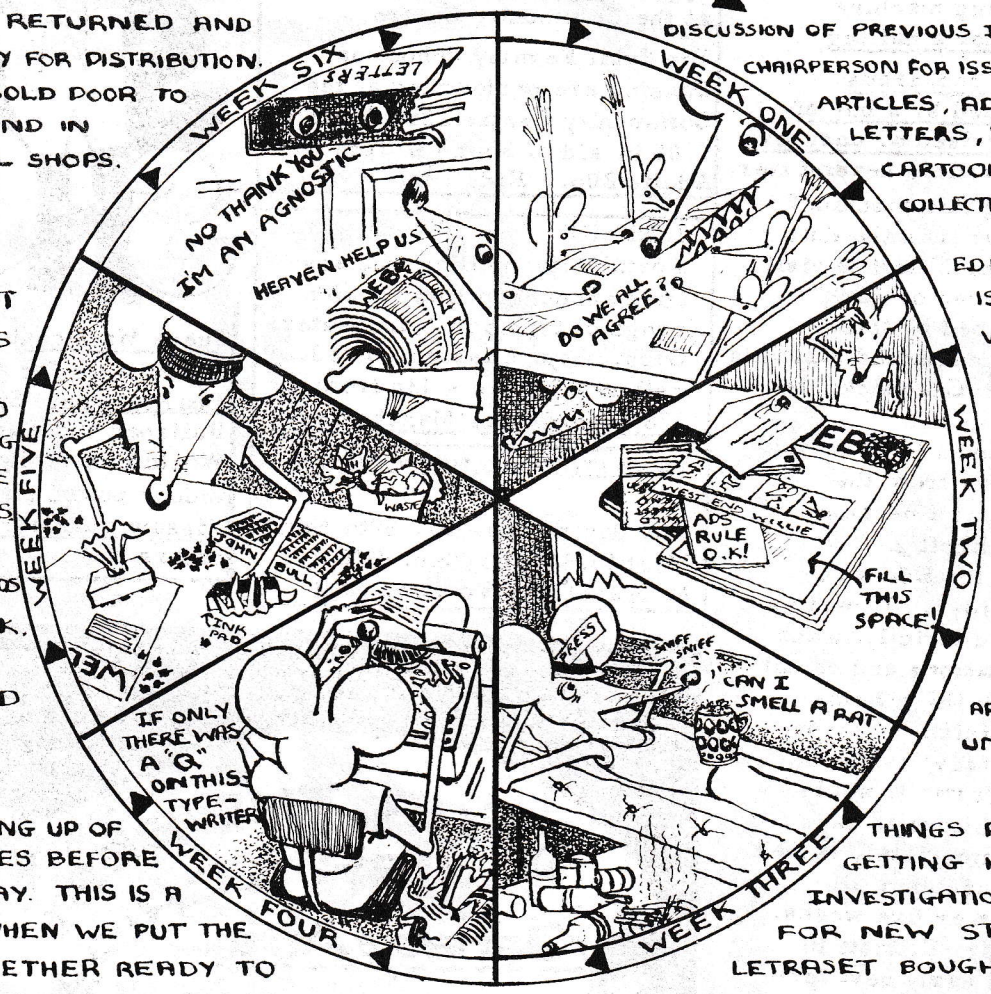
Let Us Play !

Dear WEB,
I am writing to protest at the lack of playspace between Manchester Rd. and Stockport Rd.
Whenever we play we are constantly being told to move because we might break a few windows. I know this is true, but the only place we can play is in the streets.
If we go to Talco's field or Oxford park we have to cross two very dangerous roads. If we go to the park we have to play on the grass because of the swings and other playthings. In doing this we have to be on the lookout for the Park Ranger so we can't concentrate on our football and show off our skills to any onlooking football scout. What do other kids think of the lack of playspace, especially for us young budding football stars!
Yours faithfully,
Andrew Whiteside. (13 yrs old.)

Keep Off The Glass

Last week a local mother told WEB that her son was playing football with some friends in the West End park. The ranger appeared and the first thing he did was stop them playing. He then sent them into the children's swing park saying "If you want to play football you must play in here".
The mother decided to investigate and asked why the kids couldn't play on the grass, his answer was "Its ornamental grass and as such is for looking at and not playing on"
Not surprisingly the mother is still wondering what "ornamental Grass" is. Any ideas ?

Willie shows how WEB WORKS



NOW, CAN "YOU" COME and HELP US ???

W.E. Kid in Risky Job?

A pupil from West End Secondary School is being exposed to serious danger on a 'Work Experience' scheme. Or at least that's what we heard from Mr. Ellicott of the Tameside Trades Union Council.
This is what Mr. Ellicot told us:
"Martin Ableman (that's not his real name) is 15 years old. Lately he has been visiting the works of Butterworth and Clifford in Droylsden (that is their real name), Martin has his Headmaster's permission to go to the works. He is operating a nailing machine there. I consider a nailing machine to be a dangerous weapon to be used by a boy of 15, either supervised or unsupervised. Does Martin's headmaster know he is using this machine? He should do, for it is the duty of one of the school staff to visit boys at their places of work"
WEB was disturbed by this information and contacted Martin's headmaster, Mr. Craddock, he said:
"Martin Ableman is 16½ yrs old. He was withdrawn from the scheme as soon as I became aware of Mr. Ellicott's resentations to the Education Dept. in Tameside. All parties involved adhered strictly to the numerous regulations and conditions laid down in the scheme. I reject the criticism of anyone relying on 'hearsay' evidence. In the case of Martin it would have been expeditious to have informed me immediately rather than allow the 'problem' to simmer for four or five weeks. I have invited Mr. Ellicott to visit the school early next term so that he may, at first hand, examine how the scheme operates."

Are any of your children on such a scheme? How are they getting on? Let WEB know.

Whats On

SOCIAL CLUB
ANYONE FEELING LOW?
Records, Table tennis, Pool, and a cup of coffee.
Meets each Thursday at the Community Centre 7.30-9.30

BINGO
April 23rd. 7.30.
St. Peter's School.

Mini Gala at the Vicarage
St. Peter's. 29th April 7.30.

THURSDAY SINGERS
Manchester Grammar School perform at St. Peter's Church 10th May at 7.00

MUMS & TOTS GROUP
Every Tues & Weds morning 9.30 - 11.30. Everyone welcome at the Community Centre.

The Sybil Fernley School of Dancing are performing at the Community Centre 23rd April at 7.00 in aid of Mums & Tots Grp. Adults 20p. Kids 10p.

LINK UP
Fortnightly mailing of classified announcements, a wide range of topics in Manchester. Subs. 52p. 6 issues posted. collect 6 issues - 13p from, 178 Oxford Rd., Manchester.

TAMESIDE TRADES COUNCIL

May day march. Sa. 30th April
Meet 10.30 - 11.00am AUEW
Margaret St. To Town Hall

JUBILEE DAY 7th June
Garden Party at St. Peter's Vicarage. Bar-b-q evening & Fireworks at night!

GINGERBREAD GROUP
Bringing a child up on your own?
Meet at the Highland Laddie Old Street 8.39 Mondays.
Everyone made very welcome.

TAMESIDE 'FIGHT THE CUTS' COMMITTEE
Next meeting Stalybridge Lab.
Fri. 22nd April at 8.00pm

YOUTH CLUB at the Community Centre each Mon & Wed 7.00-10.00

MARKET STALL On Sat 7th May St. Peter's chuch . Starts 10 a.m.

SWOP SHOP

330 5664

Suede Waistcoat Brown. size 10 in exchange for a feather pillow.
Board Games Spy ring Railroad and Exploration. As new
Would like antique plant pot or indoor potted plant.
Jigsaw puzzles- to swop for others.

FOR THE BEST FISH & CHIPS
Janet & Alf's
T-Bone Steak special
34 KELVIN ST.

Printed by Progress Printers.

>> PULL OUT AND KEEP <<

WEB INFORMATION

TAMESIDE

ADMIN DIVISION,
Social Services. Mercian Hse. (330 8355)
Advice, Enquiries, Complaints. (all services- 330 8355)
Housing Dept., Victoria St., Denton, (336 6431)
Building Services, Ryecroft Hall, Audenshaw, (370 0611)
Engineers, Highways, Sewers, StreetLighting, (370 9611)
Environmental Health, Refuse Collection, Town Hall, Stalybridge, (338 2245 - emergency no. 338 2605)
Education Dept., Dukinfield Town Hall, (330 8300)
Recreation Dept., Denton Town Hall, (336 6431)
Planning Dept., Hyde Town Hall, (368 4044)
Architects, Droylesden Town Hall, (Concorde Suite), (370 6111)
Estates & Valuation, Jowets Walk, (330 5636 or 368 5956)
Libraries & Arts, Jowets Walk, (330 5636)
Careers Office, 153a Stamford St., A.U.L. (330 2931)
Cemeteries & Crematorium, Kings Rd., A.U.L. (330 2760)

1 PARENT

ACTION FOR SINGLE PARENTS,
For info. about campaigns- Peter Hildrew, 13 Grange Ave, M/C 19.

GINGERBREAD GROUPS,
Ashton U.L. - West End Community Centre, John St. (339 2728)
Stalybridge - Copley Community Centre, Demesne Dr. (338 6230- For info. contact Bill Jackson)

YOUTH

YOUTH CLUB,
West End Community Centre, Weds. 7.30.

HOUSING & HOMELESS

HOUSING AID CENTRE.
Stamford St., A.U.L.(330 8355)

SHELTER.
Helen Marks. (698 3653)

M/C NIGHT SHELTER,
Harkness St., Ardwick.(275 5820)

STOPOVER,
8 Scarsdale Rd, M14.
(for homeless girls)(224 8594)

WOMEN

BATTERED WIVES,
Clyde House, (339 2345)
Frank, (330 0392)
Meg, (338 5864)

WELFARE RIGHTS,
Clyde House, (339 2345)

M/C WOMENS AID CENTRE,
18 Stockton Rd, M/C21 (8814106)
MUMS & TOTS,
West EndCommunity Centre, Tues. morns.(Contact Kath- 330 1259)

ADVICE & RESOURCES

C.A.B.
205a Stamford St., A.U.L. (330 2156)
LEGAL ADVICE,
Law Centre, M/C. (225 5111)
PRISONERS AID,
N.A.C.R.O. (N.W.region) contact Jim McKinnon(881 1930)
SAMARITANS,
M/C- (834 9000 or 832 4608)
RESOURCES CENTRE,
Gore St., M/C. (236 0350)
TAMESIDE INFORMATION,
Town Hall, Market Place. (330 8355)

NATURE

ENVIRONMENT
Tameside Natural History Soc.
Dave Copeland - 339 2728.
Friends of the Earth
Dave Berry 336 5225 (day)

HEALTH

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS,
Meet Wed. 7.30.(Contact - Mike, 308 2005)
ALCOHOL INFORMATION CENTRE,
Clyde House,(Day)(339 2345)
Harry, (Evenings) (273 6694)
Meg, (338 5864)
AL-ANON,
Jean, (273 6694)
FAMILY PLANNING ASSOCIATION
Ashton General Hospital, (ante-natal dept.) -330 4321
Mons: 6.45 to 8.45p.m.
Thurs: 1.30 to 3.30p.m.

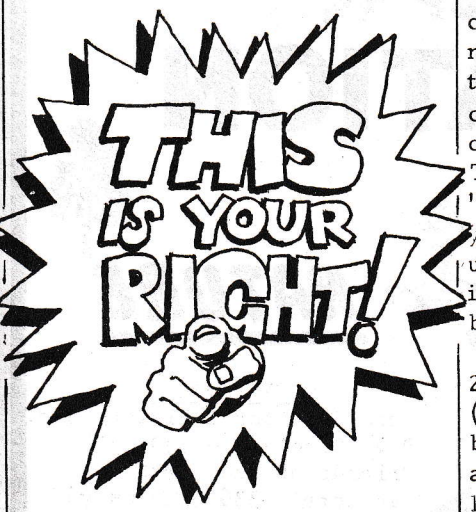
DRUGS
Lifeline Trust Daycentre, 31 Mosley Street.
Mon-Fri: 11.00 to 6.00pm.
228 2460

BRITISH PREGNANCY ADVICE SERVICE
(Advice on abortion, sexual problems, contraception)
236 6569

V.D. CLINIC - M/C Royal Infirmary. Oxford Rd M/R 13
273 3300

LOCAL G.P.'s.
G. Hamlet.
H. Patel.
B. Kalcev.
G. Patel.
Highlands Group Practice, 156, Stockport Road A.U.L.
330 2440

M. D. Isaacs.
I. S. Agarwal.
1, Trafalgar Square, A.U.L.
330 2131



RENT

Laws about rent and rent increases are very complicated and confusing; Here is a simplified guide to the most important facts about rent costs - if you want to find out any more detailed information, please ask at your local Housing Aid Centre.

When can a landlord put up the rent?

1. If you have been renting your house since 1957 or before, and if its rateable value is under £35.00, your tenancy is known as a CONTROLLED tenancy. This means that your Landlord can ONLY put up the rent if he makes improvements or repairs to the house. Rent canbe increased by up to 12½% of the cost of improvements or repairs. The Landlord has to send a "Notice of Increase" to warn you that the rent will be going up. Note: If your Landlord lives in the same house, get advice before applying for a fair rent.

2. OR, if the house has a bath (or shower), a sink, a hand basin, hot water and inside WC and is in good repair, the Landlord can apply to have the tenancy changed from CONTROLLED to REGULATED tenancy. This means that a rent officer will visit the house and decide upon a FAIR RENT. If the FAIR RENT is higher than the previous rent the tenant does not have to start paying the full FAIR RENT immediately; the rent is increased in gradual stages.

What is a fair rent?

If your tenancy is not controlled (i.e. you moved in more recently than 1957 and the rateable value is over £35 00) you or your Landlord can apply to a Rent Officer to have a FAIR RENT assessed. A FAIR RENT takes into account the condition and furnishings of the house, its age, the area, and everything else connected with the house. If you are not sure what a 'fair' rent for your house would be you can get a rough idea by going to the Rent Office, 76 Stamford Street and looking at the register of fair rents for other houses in your area. This is open for public inspection. If you think that your rent is too high, or your Landlord puts up your rent you can apply to the Rent Officer and he will fix a FAIR RENT for your house. Your Landlord may not be pleased that you have applied to the Rent Officer, since your rent may be lowered as a result, but he cannot evict you - so don't be frightened by notices to quit.

For help of advice contact the HOUSING AID CENTRE
154 Stamford St. AUL
Tel: 330 8355.

WEB needs a PHOTOGRAPHER.
Can you help?
tel. 330 5664

Mrs. Grainey
Baby Wear-Ladies Wear
Agent for Drycleaning
Alterations and Repairs
82, STOCKPORT Rd. A.-U. L.

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101 Trafalgar Street
Ashton-under-Lyne
A. MYATT
10 Portugal Street
Ashton-under-Lyne